

18.106 POLICE CLERGY PROGRAM

Introduction:

The Police Clergy Program assists Department personnel in handling a variety of crisis situations. It provides our citizens with the best service in times of personal crisis or tragedy.

Assigned chaplains are on call 24 hours a day for each of the five police districts.

Each chaplain has completed a comprehensive Crisis Ministry Course at the Cincinnati Training Section. Each carries an official ID card issued by the Hamilton County Police Association.

Chaplains can aid police in handling crisis situations. These include death or serious injury notifications, attempted or contemplated suicides, aggravated domestic problems, police-related shootings, SWAT call ups, or any other situation in which the officer feels a chaplain could calm or aid persons.

Purpose:

To familiarize police personnel with the services, duties, and responsibilities of the Police Clergy Program.

To promote a better understanding of the program between officers and chaplains.

Procedure:

- A. Officers will notify the district when they have a crisis situation where the presence of a chaplain would help resolve a problem.
 - 1. The desk officer will page a chaplain and request their assistance. When the chaplain responds to the page, information conveyed should include the nature of the situation, names of persons involved, and the location where the chaplain is to respond.
 - a. Each district will have a roster of available chaplains. The Police Clergy Program supplies this roster which contains complete paging directions.
 - b. If the chaplain does not answer the page within five minutes, the desk officer will page the Police Clergy Program Supervisor.
 - 2. Chaplains will refer all news media requests to the on scene police supervisor.
- B. On occasion chaplains will accompany police officers on patrol to observe and discuss police operations. This will acquaint them with police personnel and the community, and make them available for assistance should the need arise.

1. Upon entering the program, each chaplain completes a Release of All Claims (Form 612). The Form 612 is in force for the duration of membership in the program.
 2. When a chaplain accompanies an officer on patrol, the officer will notify Police Communications Section (PCS). The officer will give the chaplain's name and the assigned officer's radio call number.
 - a) If a spare radio is available at the district, the chaplain may use it while riding on patrol. Advise PCS of the radio number and record in the blotter before leaving the district.
 3. Each district will have bulletproof vests for use by Police Clergy Program members. Make a blotter entry when a vest is used.
- C. Refer all inquiries concerning the Police Clergy Program to the Public Information Office.